

NANTWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer
of Health**

FOR THE YEAR

1964

To which is appended the Report of the
Chief Public Health Inspector



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Nantwich Rural District

ANNUAL REPORT

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of the Chief Public Health
Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Nantwich Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Nantwich Rural District for the year 1964.

The vital statistics and social conditions show little change from the previous year there being only a slight increase in population. It is perhaps interesting to note, however, that nearly half the deaths in the district occurred in persons over 75 years of age, and that persons of pensionable age now constitute 1 in 6 of the population.

In my Annual Report of 1952 reference was made to our ageing population and statistics then available estimated that by 1980 1 in 5 of the population would be of pensionable age. That this estimate had almost been reached in 1964 emphasises the need to keep the housing programme under constant review.

In the light of this, many may find difficulty in understanding why, in the projected new hospital for this area the number of Geriatric beds for South Cheshire is being reduced, the assumption being that these should be increased to keep pace with the ever increasing number of ageing people in the population. That this is not being done is a practical expression of the modern approach to the care of old people, for it is increasingly realised, that, given a reasonable degree of supervision and help in suitable surroundings, their need be little call on the hospital services, and in the future the failure of a local authority to provide adequate care will be measured by the number of old people who have to be removed from the Community into institutional accommodation.

The approach therefore being away from residential accommodation, old people will have to be provided with those facilities which enable them to live in comfort and maintain their independence in surroundings where supervision is only proportional to their need. Such facilities do exist in the one bedroom bungalows at present being built and especially so in the latest type with underfloor central heating, but for those who are less active, a little more help and supervision is required. This can be provided where residential accommodation, provided by the Local Health Authority, is combined with a Housing Authority's Flatlet Scheme as is the case at Haslington, and it is felt that the greatest possible use should be made of this type of combination.

We must get away completely from the idea that when a person reaches the age of 65 and draws his first pension he automatically becomes a member of a problem group, for there could not be a more negative approach. Local Authorities should regard the care of

the ageing population not as a problem, as is so often the case, but rather as a challenge by providing those facilities which will introduce old age to opportunity and not despair.

As will be seen from the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector, the work of the department continued smoothly throughout the year. We have been able to maintain a 100% meat inspection and the importance of this service can be appreciated when it is realised that 116 tons were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

In a predominantly agricultural district one is relatively free from public health nuisances, but if the present trend of intensive husbandry continues it is doubtful if we will be spared for long. The basic cause of these nuisances arises from the organic imbalance of the smaller holdings, and the impossibility of utilising the wastes on the land in the traditional method.

The actual degree of danger to public health from the disposal of the excreta which results from intensive poultry units, pig keeping and cattle rearing has not been established but undoubtedly there is a risk coupled with a real threat to amenity and comfort, and many complaints have been received during the year arising from the spraying of liquid manure on the land, drainage from silage, large scale spreading of fertilisers, coupled with the problem of drainage, resulting from the increasing use of water. Siting is, of course of paramount importance since the proximity of intensive farming units to housing development is the real cause of the troubles which arise.

Whilst some progress has been made towards the control of Brucellosis no actual policy has yet been introduced with a view to eliminating the offending animals and for so long as this continues and unpasteurised milk is sold, this public health danger must continue.

I wish to thank all members of the Council and my colleagues in all departments for their continued interest and help throughout the year, and in particular I would acknowledge the co-operation of the Chief Public Health Inspector and his help in the preparation of this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. KENNETH HAY,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Stapeley House,
Stapeley, Nantwich.

July, 1965.

Nantwich Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Whole Council

Chairman: Councillor S. W. Jackson

Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. E. Holmes

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NANTWICH DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor C. W. Jones

Councillor H. Cookson

Councillor Mrs. M. Milnes Walker

Councillor F. A. Moore

Councillor J. Dulson

Councillor J. H. Williams

Councillor W. T. Charlesworth

Councillor E. S. Dutton

Councillor Mrs. A. E. Turner

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. R. Kenneth Hay, M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector: John S. Townley, M.A.P.H.I.,
M.Inst. P.C.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector: John Craven, Cert.
S.I.B., Cert.I. of Housing

Additional Public Health Inspector: Malcolm B. Elliott,
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector: J. Russell Adderley,
Cert. S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector: Kenneth M. Jones, Cert.
P.H.I.E.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector: L. Peter Boardman,
Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

Clerical Assistant/Shorthand Typist: Mrs. Gillian E.
Mottershead

Male Trainee: Charles C. Brookfield

Clerk: Laurence A. Penhall

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	100,885
Population	...	...	...	...	...	29,180
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1964)	...	...	...	...	...	9,886
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£864,520
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£3,517

The district is situated in the South East of Cheshire. It adjoins the County of Salop in the South and the County of Stafford in the east, and forms part of the alluvial plain of Cheshire. It surrounds the Borough of Crewe and the Urban District of Nantwich. Whilst the area is predominantly agricultural, a large proportion of the population is to be found in those parishes contiguous to Crewe and Nantwich, in which towns they find their employment. The main source of employment in the Rural District is agriculture and industries allied with it. These take the form of milk and milk product factories, corn mills and agricultural engineering; the latter having increased locally with the mechanisation of farming. There is virtually no unemployment in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	451
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.45
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)							4.65

Still Births

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.12
Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	457
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.73
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.6
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.08
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	6.65
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Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	19.69
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Deaths

Male	...	...	...	...	...	...	199
Female	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	358
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.26
Standardised death rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.50
Figure for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3

ROAD ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES

The Road Safety Officer has kindly supplied the following particulars :

	1963	1964
Total number of accidents	357	463
Persons Killed		
Children under 5 years	—	—
Children aged 5 to 15 years	—	—
Persons over 15 years	18	6
	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 6

The above figures include the following:—

Persons who reside in the Rural District of Nantwich	10	2
Persons who reside outside the Rural District of Nantwich	8	4
	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 6

Persons Injured

Children under 5 years (serious)	—	—
Children under 5 years (slight)	—	5
Children 5 to 15 years (serious)	1	3
Children 5 to 15 years (slight)	13	14
Persons over 15 years (serious)	34	29
Persons over 15 years (slight)	197	215
	<hr/> 245	<hr/> 266

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The following weather conditions for the year, have been supplied by the Principal of the Cheshire School of Agriculture, Reaseheath, Nantwich:—

Climatic Data—1964

Month	Rainfall in inches	Air Temp. in degrees C. and F.			
		Minimum		Maximum	
		°C	°F	°C	°F
January ... ..	.665	— 6	21	11	52
February ... ..	.72	— 7	19	14	58
March	2.135	— 6	21	12	53
April	2.085	— 3	26	20	68
May	1.215	1	34	24	76
June	2.02	2	35	24	76
July	1.660	4	39	25	77
August	1.905	— 1	30	27	80
September ... ..	.882	2	36	23	74
October	2.725	— 3	27	18	65
November	1.54	— 6	21	15	60
December	3.155	— 8	16	14	58

Total rainfall 1964 — 20.707 inches

TABLE OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parastic diseases ...	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3	9
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus ...	8	—	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	9	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	7	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	14	29
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	3	5	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	25	35	60
Coronary disease, angina	56	26	82
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
Other heart disease	25	21	46
Other circulatory disease	9	7	16
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	5	2	7
Bronchitis	13	2	15
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	2	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	6	—	6
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	2	3	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	14	24
Motor Vehicle accidents	2	—	2
All other accidents	5	2	7
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Total (all causes)	199	159	358

There was no cause of unusual or excessive mortality

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from cancer (all ages) ...	29	34	63

LABORATORY SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratory at Chester accepts samples of water and ice-cream for analysis and the arrangements introduced with the Group Laboratory of the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee in 1956, for accepting other bacteriological specimens continues, and the service given is much appreciated.

The chemical analysis of water is undertaken by the County Analyst to whom a fee is payable.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Divisional Health Committee relinquished control of this service in February, 1961. With the use of radio control the service is now operated centrally at County Level, with vehicles and personnel based at Crewe. Local requests for ambulance transport are accepted at the Ambulance Depot., Badger Avenue, Crewe. Telephone No. Crewe 2030.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths or pools in this area.

NURSING SERVICES

14 Nurse/Midwives serve the district and apart from two changes of residence and one change of name, there is no alteration in the list of nursing staff who work in the area. There have however, been two changes in the Health Visiting Staff, and detailed information will be found in Appendix I, on Pages 15—16.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Midwives Clinic Ante-natal	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Wednesday p.m.
Preparation Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Monday p.m.
Screening Clinic for Deafness	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	1st and 2nd Friday p.m.
	Wistaston Memorial Hall, Wistaston.	3rd Friday p.m.
School Minor Ailment Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	2nd and 4th Monday a.m.
Paediatric Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Ludford Street, Crewe	3rd Friday p.m.
	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Stalbridge Road, Crewe	1st Friday p.m.
Eye Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Thursday a.m.
Cerebral Palsy Clinic	201 Edleston Road, Crewe	Tuesday a.m. and p.m. and Friday p.m.

Speech Therapy	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Tuesday a.m. and p.m.
Dental Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Tuesday p.m. Thursday a.m. and p.m.
Special Clinic	8 Herdman Street, Crewe.	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Fri- day 9.0 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Thursday 9.0 a.m. to 7.0 p.m. Saturday 9.0 a.m. to 12 noon.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Year of Immunisation and Vaccination	Immunisation		Vaccination	
	Primary Immunisation	Re- Immunisation	Primary Vaccination	Re- Vaccination
1960	257	342	229	19
1961	384	220	240	34
1962	399	46	1,017	889
1963	406	184	81	43
1964	442	248	139	61

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

Protection against poliomyelitis continues and from figures compiled from records received from General Practitioners it is noted that oral vaccine is becoming more widely used. In fact of those children in the district who received protection for the first time, 69% out of a total of 302 received an oral dose of Sabin vaccine, 9% Salk and 22% Quadrilin.

HOSPITALS

General hospitals at Crewe, Nantwich, and Hartshill in Staffordshire, serve the Rural District, with the old Isolation Hospital now known as Alvaston being available for convalescent cases.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases in the Rural Area are accepted at the Crewe Isolation Hospital, which has met all needs during the year.

The Maternity Hospital at Linden Grange, Crewe, and the Maternity wards at the Barony Hospital, Nantwich, continued to serve the Rural District.

Hospitalisation of tuberculous patients is at Hefferston Grange within the County of Cheshire.

MORTUARY FACILITIES

The arrangements made with the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee for the use of the mortuary at the Barony Hospital, Nantwich, have worked satisfactorily and continued to meet the needs of the Rural District.

DISINFECTION

Terminal disinfection is carried out at homes of patients suffering from infectious diseases, as and when required. Arrangements for the steam disinfection of bedding and clothing, etc., are made with the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee, the work being carried out at the Crewe Isolation Hospital.

CARAVAN SITES

Licences for individual caravans were issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 in six cases, and these approvals are conditional and for a limited period. Three applications were refused.

A residential site at Church Minshull is licensed for 56 caravans but use is limited to 30 pending the extension of facilities, the average number of vans on the site during the year being 25.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The close liaison between the Council, the Divisional Health Committee, the Local Health Authority, and the County Welfare Department continued to make it possible to administer Section 47 without legal proceedings. In many cases, the provision of a Home Help made it possible for aged persons to continue residence in their own homes and in their own familiar environment.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS AND OTHER INSECT PESTS

No Council or private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector which deals with the matter is attached hereto.

SCHOOLS

No schools were closed during the year as a result of infectious diseases or epidemics.

NUTRITION

No action under this heading has been taken by this Council, and the Welfare Centres at Audlem, Bunbury, Haslington, Shavington, Wistaston and Wrenbury, under the supervision of the Divisional Health Committee have continued to do valuable work in this respect.

SHELL-FISH

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in this district.

MILK SUPPLIES—BRUCELLA ABORTUS

The following table has been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health, whose department undertakes the sampling in connection with Brucella Abortus.

				Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive
Bulk Samples	...	...	...	115	2
Dealer Samples	...	...	...	10	—
Individual Cow Samples	...	...	...	71	4
Total				196	6

In cases where individual cow samples proved positive on Brucella Cultural Examination undertakings are accepted from farmers concerned that milk from the offending animals will not be sold for human consumption or used in the manufacture of products for human consumption unless it has been treated, or in the case of a sale is sold subject to it being treated before consumption, in such a way as to secure to the satisfaction of the District Medical Officer of Health that it may with safety be so disposed of.

At the end of 1964 there were 15 Dairy herds in the Rural District from which milk was sold raw to the public.

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963.

There are no Egg Pasteurisation plants in the district.

WATER SUPPLY

The Council is a constituent member of the Mid Cheshire Water Board, which maintains a satisfactory and adequate supply of mains water throughout the whole district, except in the Bunbury area, where the supply is still direct from the Vyrnwy Aquaduct and is being kept under supervision, as occasional unsatisfactory sample results have occurred from time to time.

The Board forwards copies of sample results to the local authority for information and the Council only takes samples from the few private supplies remaining in the district.

48 parishes are completely provided with mains water and of the remaining 20 parishes (excluding Peckforton which has 7 properties from the Estate supply), there are 14 parishes with only one property without mains water; 4 with 2 properties; and 2 with 3 properties.

There are no residential properties known to be obtaining water from standpipes, other than the occasional caravan sites.

The position excluding estate supplies at the end of 1964 is summarised as follows:—

Bad private supplies	...	...	8 (serving 9 properties)
Suspicious private supplies	...	...	7 (serving 8 properties)
Satisfactory private supplies	...	...	11

There were 43 samples taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination, 30 proving satisfactory with the remaining 13 unsatisfactory. All occupiers of premises with a bad or suspicious supply have been notified to boil all water intended for domestic purposes.

The fluoride content of the water supply from the mains is negligible.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 7 cases of Scarlet Fever and no case of Diphtheria was notified during the year. There were 5 cases of Tuberculosis notified, two of which were pulmonary, these exclude Inward Transfers.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES SHOWING INCIDENCE OF CASES IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS AMONG CIVILIANS

Age	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Meningococcal Septicaemia	Erysipelas	TOTALS
Under 1	—	—	—	4	13	—	—	—	—	17
1—	—	1	—	9	14	—	—	—	—	24
2—	—	—	—	8	29	—	—	—	—	37
3—	—	—	—	7	39	—	—	—	—	46
4—	—	—	—	10	44	—	—	—	—	54
5—	—	5	—	32	211	—	—	—	—	248
10—	—	1	—	5	15	—	—	1	—	22
15—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
20—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
35—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	7	2	75	367	—	—	1	2	455

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES NOTIFIED (including Inward Transfers) and MORTALITY DURING 1964

Age Periods			New Cases and Transfers				Deaths			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
45—	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
			3	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

Total Cases: 6 Deaths: 0

Inward Transfers: 1

Number of Cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year 1964 :—

Males		Females	
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
32	12	21	4

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J. K. Smithies) provides the following information with respect to Sewerage and Sewage Disposal and Housing:—

Main Village Schemes

1. **Audlem.** Construction work on the contract for the provision of sewers and sewage disposal works commenced in June 1964, and has been proceeding satisfactorily under the supervision of the Council's Consulting Engineers. Completion of the scheme is scheduled for December, 1965.
2. **Wybunbury and Walgherton.** This contract for the sewerage of Wybunbury to Doddington Works commenced in June, 1964, and has proceeded satisfactorily under the control of the Council's Consulting Engineers, and it is expected to be in operation by December, 1965.
3. **Bunbury.** The Council has given further consideration to the detailed design of a scheme to cover the area of Bunbury and Spurstow and this is in the hands of the Council's Consultants.

Extensions to Existing Drainage Schemes.

Existing drainage systems have been extended and improved during the year at Elton Lane, Winterley; Peacock Cottages, Crewe Road, Willaston and surface drainage at London Road, Stapeley.

Gresty Sewer.

Work was completed during the year on this contract supervised by Crewe Corporation.

Closet Conversion.

The Council continued to make contributions towards voluntary conversions of pail closets and 36 applications were dealt with during the year.

The number of pail closets now remaining at Haslington, Shavington and Willaston, where it is possible for conversions to be connected to the public sewer has been considerably reduced and the 22 now remaining will be carried out in default by the Council and the appropriate portion of the cost recovered from the owners.

HOUSING

During 1964, 197 new dwellings were completed by private enterprise and at the end of the year 300 were under construction.

The Council completed the erection of the following one bedroomed bungalows:—

Audlem	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wrenbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Acton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Haslington, Waterloo Road	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Spurstow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
								—
								51
								—

This brings the total of this type of dwelling to 127.

Contracts are in hand for the erection of 4 dwellings at Alpraham, and the erection of flatlets and Part III Accommodation with Welfare facilities at Crosslands, Waterloo Road, Haslington, providing 32 units of accommodation. Sites for bungalows at Shavington (16), Church Minshull (4), Marbury (4), Wybunbury (4), Bunbury (12), Warmingham (2) are in varying stages of negotiation or planning.

Improvements to housing accommodation by means of Improvement Grants continued during the year, Discretionary Grants covering 9 properties and amounting to £2,325 were approved. Standard Grants covering 64 properties were approved and £4,393, paid in respect of 41 properties.

APPENDIX 1

NURSES AND HEALTH VISITORS SERVING THE NANTWICH RURAL DISTRICT

Nurses

- Miss L. C. JONES,
12 Wilbraham Close,
Acton.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65571.
- Miss M. P. FEEHAN,
The Oak,
Bunbury,
Tarporeley.
Tel. No. Bunbury 298.
- Mrs. R. E. FORT,
Laundry Cottage,
Rookery Park,
Worleston.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65941.
- Miss M. H. HUNTER,
The Gables,
Audlem.
Tel. No. Audlem 422.
- Mrs. E. WEATHERALL,
22 Cresswellshaw Road,
Alsager.
Tel. No. Alsager 67.
- Mrs. FEATHER,
12 Burlea Drive,
Shavington.
Tel. No. Crewe 67234.
- Mrs. B. E. WHISTON,
The Croft,
115 Stock Lane,
Wybunbury.
Tel. No. Wybunbury 329.
- Mrs. B. A. MOSS,
20 Mill Grove,
Bulkeley.
Tel. No. Cholmondeley 217.
- Miss W. A. GEORGE,
Council Houses,
Newhall Lane,
Aston, Newhall.
Tel. No. Aston 286.
- Miss M. BROCKLEHURST,
Bickley Moss,
Whitchurch.
Tel. No. Cholmondeley 268.
- Miss D. WILLIAMS,
33 Cartwright Road,
Haslington.
Tel. No. Crewe 2693.

Parishes

- Acton, Austerson, Baddiley, Baddington, Brindley, Burland, Edleston, Faddiley, Henhull, Hurleston, Stoke, Wardle.
- Alpraham, Bunbury, Calveley, Haughton, Peckforton, Ridley, Spurstow.
- Aston-Juxta-Mondrum, Cholmondeston, Leighton, Church Minshull, Minshull Vernon, Poole, Wettenhall, Woolstanwood, Worleston.
- Audlem, Buerton, Hankelow, Newhall (part), Coole Pilate.
- Barthomley.
- Basford, Chorlton, Hough, Rope, Shavington-cum-Gresty, Weston, Wybunbury (small part).
- Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Doddington, Hatherton, Hunsterson, Lea, Walgherton, Wybunbury (part).
- Bickerton, Bulkeley, Egerton.
- Broomhall, Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley, Marbury-cum-Quoisley (part), Newhall (part), Norbury (part), Sound, Woodcott, Wrenbury-cum-Frith.
- Cholmondeley, Chorley, Marbury-cum-Quoisley (part), Norbury (part), Wirswall.
- Crewe Green, Haslington.

Nurses

Miss E. REILLY,
22 Jackson Avenue,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65570.

Miss E. E. GERRARD,
647 Crewe Road,
Wheelock.
Tel. No. Sandbach 281.

Miss B. E. BRAY,
34 Elm Close,
Wistaston.
Tel. No. Crewe 2431.

Parishes

Batherton, Stapeley, Willaston (small part).

Warmingham.

Wistaston, Willaston (part).

HEALTH VISITORS

Miss B. HICKSON,
The Dowery
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65360.

Miss E. M. SCOTT,
The Dowery,
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65360.

Miss D. GRIFFITHS,
East View,
Little Heath,
Audlem.
Tel. No. Audlem 443.

Mrs. S. MINGER,
The Dowery,
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65360.

Mrs. W. JONES,
37 High Park,
Hawarden,
Chester.
Tel. No. Hawarden 3311.

Mrs. R. DAVIES,
The Dowery
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich. 65360.

Acton, Baddiley, Baddington, Brindley, Broomhall, Bulkeley, Bunbury, Burland, Cholmondeley, Chorley, Edleston, Faddiley, Haughton, Hurleston, Marbury-cum-Quoisley, Norbury, Peckforton, Ridley, Sound, Spurstow, Stoke, Wirswall, Woodcott, Wrenbury-cum-Frith.

Alpraham, Aston-Juxta-Mondrum, Calveley, Cholmondeston, Henhull, Leighton, Church Minshull, Minshull Vernon, Poole, Wardle, Wettenhall, Woolstanwood, Worleston.

Audlem, Austerson, Batherton, Basford (part), Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Buerton, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Chorlton, Coole Pilate, Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley, Doddington, Hankelow, Hatherton, Hough, Hunsterson, Lea, Newhall, Stapeley, Walgherton, Wybunbury.

Barthomley, Basford (part), Crewe Green, Shavington-cum-Gresty, Weston, Haslington, Rope, Warmingham.

Bickerton, Egerton.

Willaston, Wistaston.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1964.

Public Health Department,
Stapeley House,
Stapeley,
Nantwich.

To the Chairman and Members of the Nantwich Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in recording that the staff of Public Health Inspectors remained unchanged, and enabled the work of the department to proceed efficiently without interruption. In view of the many vacancies on the staffs of other Local Authorities which often offer less arduous and more remunerative employment, it is imperative that the service conditions of these officers must continue to compare favourably with the best if we are to retain a settled staff.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, which came into force on the 1st May, 1964, had a considerable impact on the work of the department. This Act makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of people employed in the premises mentioned in its title and who hitherto had been outside the scope of the Shops Acts and the Factories Acts.

The substance of this report is based on the administration of many Acts of Parliament, and the regulations made under them, which cover a wide range of subjects involving matters of public health, and it is pleasing to record that by persuasion and personal contact over the years we have attained a high standard of compliance.

As will be seen in the report the need for legal action has again only been small.

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Numerically these depend basically on routine visits, but can vary from year to year according to the type of any special survey work being undertaken. Some jobs are more time consuming than others, and in a rural area travelling time has to be taken into account. The number against each heading should be taken as a whole and are no more than an indication of the directions in which the greatest activity took place. As usual meat inspection involved the most routine visits.

In the following table the various headings indicate the primary purpose of the visits recorded against them, but it must be emphasized that an Inspector is always on the look out to ensure that the whole range of Acts and Regulations that apply in any particular circumstances are being adequately complied with; even though these are not listed as individual inspections.

Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	969
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	14
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	77
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	427
Rent Acts	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Premises—Sampling, Inspection, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	986
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	47
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	68
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	282
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	2,853
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	210
National Assistance Acts	...	...	...	...	...	2
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	30
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	...	...	...	...	...	71
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	...	118
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cheshire County Council Act	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	...	62
TOTAL						6,234

NOTICES AND LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Public Health Acts:—

Informal notices served	...	...	...	...	20
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	5
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	21

Housing Acts:—

Notices to appear	...	...	...	...	5
Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	7
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	1
Undertakings to Close	...	...	...	...	2

Food and Drugs Act:—

Informal notices served	...	...	...	...	21
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	27

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

No legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

All necessary enquiries and investigations into cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health were made as required. Particular attention was given to those cases where food handlers were involved.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Modern methods of destruction of rats and mice, have resulted in a decrease in requests for the Council service. Complaints are dealt with as they arise and appropriate advice given, with constant search for infestations by the Public Health Inspectors during the normal course of their inspection duties under the various Acts and Regulations administered by the Public Health Department.

Refuse disposal sites and sewage works are kept under regular supervision and treatment carried out as required.

There were 14 longstanding contracts for the treatment of business premises renewed during the year and these were supervised and treated along with the Council's Properties.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

It is pleasing to record that the scavenging scheme involving the emptying of approximately 11,778 dustbins fortnightly and approximately 1,408 pail closets weekly, continued to operate on a regular basis throughout the year.

During the year there was a reduction of 131 in the number of pail closets with an increase of 388 dustbins.

The reduction in the work of collection and disposal of nightsoil offsets the additional demands for household refuse collection and disposal arising from new housing developments. The transition is a gradual one demanding adjustments in the working arrangements in the various scavenging districts, as circumstances present themselves, and any redundancy in labour has been absorbed by retirements and other vacancies which occur from time to time. The increase in annual leave entitlements and the prospects of a shorter working week, do however, forshadow labour problems in the future.

Demands are made from time to time for a more frequent household refuse collection service, but it would seem more satisfactory to continue with a regular fortnightly collection than embark on any scheme which might involve irregularities in days and times of collection. In any case if the existing arrangements afford facilities for improvement of the service, then it would seem that the inclusion of farms should receive first consideration.

Refuse disposal facilities by land reclamation must remain the cheapest means for many years to come and landowners should be encouraged to continue making facilities available.

Composting is still the only satisfactory method of disposal for nightsoil, although the possibilities of discharging it into sewerage systems may have possibilities for the future.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

Only one notice was served under this Act, during the year, and it is believed that the requirements of the Act are being reasonably met so far as sanitary conveniences are concerned.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following is a copy of the table forwarded by the Ministry of Labour for the guidance of Medical Officers of Health in preparing that part of their Annual Report which relates to factories:—

Part I of the Act

1—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	NUMBER OF Written Occupiers Notices Prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	116	248	8	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	14	24	2	—
TOTAL	<u>137</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>—</u>

2—Cases in which defects were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	3	—	—
TOTAL	10	10	3	1	—

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Informal action, as required, resulted in the control of occasional smoke emissions by industrial concerns, who continued to co-operate with the Council's Officers towards rendering their plants more efficient.

No decision was received from the Minister regarding the complimentary Smoke Control Order with the Borough of Crewe No. 1 (Marshfield Bank and Wistaston Green) Smoke Control Order, which was submitted last year.

HOUSING

The estimated number of unfit houses in the original ten year slum clearance programme, to be dealt with by the 31st December, 1965 was 281 which figure was exceeded by 40, making an actual total of 321 houses, at the end of the year.

At the 31st December, 1964, final action had been taken by the Council with respect to 234 houses leaving 87 still to be finally dealt with as follows :—

Houses to be demolished	...	...	...	...	...	62
Houses to be finally closed on vacation	...	...	...	...	...	7
Houses which will probably be made fit	...	...	...	...	...	18

Of the 87 houses still to be finally dealt with 42 are still occupied but of these 23 are "life tenancy" cases.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following list of food premises covers a wide range of businesses, with a variety of problems. No matter how well basic structural requirements are complied with, it is, as in most things, the human element which finally determines the issue, and standards of food hygiene depend greatly on the attitude of the individual.

Catering Establishments—

Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	...	...	...	...	6
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	32
Factory and Office canteens	...	...	...	...	14
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	5

Licensed Premises—

Full Licence	60
Off Licence	10

Bakehouses	3
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Shops—

Grocery, Greengrocery, Confectionery and Sweets	...	134
Butchers	...	15
Chemists	...	4
Wet Fish	...	2
Poultry Dressing and Plucking Establishments	...	8
Licensed Slaughterhouses	...	10
Registered Dairies	...	30
Registered Distributors of Milk	...	50
Registered Hawkers	...	50

Premises Registered for—

Manufacture of Ice-Cream	...	3
Storage and Sale of Ice-cream	...	88
Preparation or manufacture of Sausage or pressed, potted or preserved meat, etc.		10

Following the outbreak of typhoid fever in Aberdeen, food premises in this area were circularized with respect to the suspected consignments of corned beef and visited when confirmation was required. Several cans bearing the specified code numbers from the consignments concerned were found and the owners undertook to withhold them from circulation for immediate consumption.

The publicity given to this outbreak emphasized the need for a high standard of hygiene in the control of food borne diseases, which forcibly impressed upon food handlers the need for maintaining their own personal hygiene and to make the fullest use of facilities provided for this purpose in all food premises.

Food hygiene in this area is being maintained at a reasonably high standard and this coupled with the increase in the range of prepacked foods, must ultimately reduce the risks involved in the handling of food.

Details of weight of food (other than meat at slaughterhouses) condemned during 1964 .—

	lbs.	ozs.
Meat at retail shops	6	4
Cooked meat and meat products	7	1
Canned meats	8	0
Fish	40	4½
Fruit and Vegetables	21	15
Other foods	4	15
	<hr/>	
	TOTAL	88 7½
	<hr/>	

The following samples of ice-cream were taken:—

134 samples of ice-cream.

11 samples of ice lollies.

130 ice-cream samples were satisfactory with 4 unsatisfactory: And the 11 ice lolly samples were all satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The ten slaughterhouses licensed in 1963 were again licensed in 1964, two of them however, changed hands during the year bringing back into use one which had not been operating since 1962 and another which had been out of use for some months.

The number of animals slaughtered was less than during the previous year—45,052 as against 47,811 in 1963, but there are indications that the number of animals killed each year is levelling out after rising from a low kill of 34,250 in 1959 to a record of 50,708 in 1962. It is estimated that 80.4% of the animals slaughtered were for consumption outside the Rural District.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 continued in operation with the maximum charges allowed for inspection being applied in all cases. This amounted to £2,786 2s. 9d. for this, the first full year, as compared with £815 for the 12 months ending 31st March, 1963, the last full year under the grant system.

The following table shows the details of animals inspected and meat condemned:—

	Cattle (Excl. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
Number killed	5,621	9,478	1,271	10,724	17,958	45,052
Number inspected	5,621	9,478	1,271	10,724	17,958	45,052

All diseases except tuberculosis

Whole Carcases condemned ...	8	46	115	143	44	356
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Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,297	6,837	11	1,932	1,286	11,363
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Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis ...	23.2	72.6	9.9	19.3	7.4	26.0
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Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
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Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	48	1	25	—	73
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Percentage of the number inspected infected with tuberculosis ...	—	.5	.08	.23	—	.16
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Estimated total weight of meat condemned was 116 tons 19 cwts. 0 qrs. 18½ lbs., compared with 113 tons 7 cwts. 1 qr. 3¾ lbs. in 1963 and 103 tons 3 qrs. 12¾ lbs. in 1962.

The number of slaughtermen licensed by the Council was 33.

During the year 35 cows and 1 bullock were consigned to two slaughterhouses in this area under the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order and 19 were found to be affected with visible lesions of tuberculosis.

The following table shows how the incidence of tuberculosis in animals (including reactors) has declined over the years.

		1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Animals Affected		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cows	...	27.0	13.2	5.4	2.4	2.8	0.6	0.5
Cattle (other than cows)	... ..	12.0	7.4	4.2	0.4	0.4	.05	—
All animals (incl. calves, pigs and sheep)	... ..	3.9	2.3	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.24	0.16

All unsound meat is sterilized or destroyed either at the slaughterhouses or, as is usually the case in this area, after removal to an approved place. At one slaughterhouse suitable condemned livers are allocated for pharmaceutical purposes. A certificate of voluntary surrender is signed which specifies the arrangements made for its disposal.

Six cows and eleven other cattle were affected with cysticercus bovis and detained in cold store for the prescribed period before being released.

CANALS

The canals which cross the area are mainly used by pleasure boats. The disposal of refuse and litter has been the cause for some concern, but it is hoped that this problem will continue to be overcome with the co-operation of the British Waterways Board.

OFFENSIVE TRADE

The only one in the area—a tripe boiler—continued to operate without cause for complaint.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

This Act, the requirements of which, the Council are required to enforce, came into operation on the 1st May, 1964, and relates to the health, welfare and comfort of office, shop and other employees. Registration and inspections have been made and it is being found that generally speaking the requirements are being adequately complied with.

TABLE A—Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices ...	6	6	6
Retail Shops ...	42	42	42
Wholesale shops and warehouses ...	—	—	—
Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens ...	11	11	11
Fuel storage depots	2	2	2
	—	—	—
TOTALS	61	61	61
	—	—	—

TABLE B—Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises—65.

TABLE C—Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by (according to) Workplace.

Class of workplace (1)	Number of Persons employed (2)
Offices ...	20
Retail shops ...	105
Wholesale departments, warehouses ...	—
Catering establishments open to the public ...	59
Canteens ...	—
Fuel storage depots ...	5
	—
TOTAL	189
	—

(64 males and
125 females)

I am

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. TOWNLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst. P.C.

22nd July, 1965.

JOHNSON & SON
(Nantwich) Ltd.
